AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Replace the Abstract with the following rewritten version:

A device for controlling lighting, especially inside the passenger compartments of vehicles, including emprising at least one light source (4) and at least one sensor (7) which influences thesaid light source and which detects at least the movement of a body (24) within the active range of thesaid sensor. A control unit, which is used to control the light source according to a sensor signal provided by a sensor, is associated with thesaid light source. Control means, which are controlled by thesaid control unit, track the light from the at least one light source according to a sensor signal corresponding to the position of the body-(24). The inventive device can be used in a simpler, more intuitive and if required blind manner by virtue of the fact that the sensor (7) comprises means for recognizing a movement pattern of the body and means for producing a sensor signal according to the movement pattern, and by virtue of the fact that the control means track the light of the movement of the body in terms of amplitude and optionally according to direction as a result of said signal. The invention also relates to a method for controlling thesaid device.